

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. An apparatus operable to configure an image forming device
2 comprising:
3 an interface configured to couple with an image forming device
4 configured to use an imaging consumable to form hard images, the image forming
5 device being initially configured to cause the formation of an initial one of a
6 plurality of consumable order assist functions with respect to replenishment of the
7 imaging consumable within the image forming device and responsive to a status
8 of the imaging consumable within the image forming device; and
9 processing circuitry configured to communicate with the image
10 forming device using the interface to configure the image forming device to cause
11 the formation of another one of the consumable order assist functions with respect
12 to replenishment of the imaging consumable within the image forming device and
13 responsive to the status of the imaging consumable within the image forming
14 device.

1 2. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to discover an existence of the image forming
3 device and to configure the image forming device after the discovery.

1 3. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to discover an identity of the image forming
3 device and to configure the image forming device after the discovery.

1 4. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to discover an initial variable of the image forming
3 device configured to cause the formation of the initial one of the consumable order
4 assist functions, and to communicate another variable after the discovery to cause
5 the formation of the another one of the consumable order assist functions.

1 5. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to write a variable to the image forming device
3 to configure the image forming device.

1 6. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to write a variable to the image forming device
3 to configure the image forming device using a remote query language.

1 7. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein the interface
2 is configured to couple with the image forming device comprising a printer.

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1 8. An article of manufacture comprising:
2 a processor-readable medium having processor-usable code embodied
3 therein and configured to cause processing circuitry to perform steps comprising:
4 accessing an image forming device configured to use an
5 imaging consumable to form hard images, the image forming device being initially
6 configured to cause a formation of an initial one of a plurality of consumable order
7 assist functions with respect to replenishment of the imaging consumable within
8 the image forming device and responsive to a status of the imaging consumable
9 within the image forming device; and
10 configuring the image forming device after the accessing to
11 cause the formation of another one of the consumable order assist functions with
12 respect to replenishment of the imaging consumable within the image forming
13 device and responsive to the status of the imaging consumable within the image
14 forming device.

1 9. The article in accordance with claim 8 wherein the processor-
2 readable medium has processor-usable code embodied therein configured to cause
3 the processing circuitry to perform the accessing comprising discovering an
4 existence of the image forming device.

1 10. The article in accordance with claim 8 wherein the processor-
2 readable medium has processor-usable code embodied therein configured to cause
3 the processing circuitry to perform the accessing comprising discovering an identity
4 of the image forming device.

11. The article in accordance with claim 8 wherein the processor-readable medium has processor-usable code embodied therein configured to cause the processing circuitry to perform the accessing comprising discovering an initial variable of the image forming device configured to cause the formation of the initial one of the consumable order assist functions, and the configuring comprising writing another variable to the image forming device after the discovering to cause the formation of the another one of the consumable order assist functions.

12. The article in accordance with claim 8 wherein the processor-readable medium has processor-usable code embodied therein configured to cause the processing circuitry to perform the configuring comprising writing a variable to the image forming device.

13. The article in accordance with claim 8 wherein the processor-readable medium has processor-usable code embodied therein configured to cause the processing circuitry to perform the configuring comprising writing a variable to the image forming device using a remote query language.

14. A method of configuring an image forming device comprising:
accessing an image forming device configured to use an imaging consumable to form hard images, the image forming device being initially configured to cause a formation of an initial one of a plurality of consumable order assist functions with respect to replenishment of the imaging consumable within the image forming device and responsive to a status of the imaging consumable within the image forming device; and

configuring the image forming device after the accessing to cause the formation of another one of the consumable order assist functions with respect to replenishment of the imaging consumable within the image forming device and responsive to the status of the imaging consumable within the image forming device.

1 15. The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 accessing comprises discovering an existence of imaging forming device and the
3 configuring is responsive to the discovering.

1 16. The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 accessing comprises discovering an identity of imaging forming device and the
3 configuring is responsive to the discovering.

1 17. The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 accessing comprises discovering an initial variable of the image forming device
3 configured to cause the formation of the initial one of the consumable order assist
4 functions, and the configuring comprises writing another variable to the image
5 forming device after the discovering to cause the formation of the another one of
6 the consumable order assist functions.

1 18. The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 configuring comprises writing a variable to the image forming device.

1 19. The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 configuring comprises writing a variable to the image forming device using a remote
3 query language.

1 20. The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 accessing comprises accessing the image forming device comprising a printer.